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# Summer Gifted Academy at UD Designed to Challenge Students

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## *The University of Dayton*

## *News Release*

June 20, 1991  
Contact: Pam Huber

### **SUMMER GIFTED ACADEMY AT UD DESIGNED TO CHALLENGE STUDENTS**

DAYTON, Ohio -- High school students face all kinds of challenges, from the ecological challenge of saving the planet to the practical challenge of choosing a career.

The University of Dayton's Gifted Academy, in two sessions this summer, will help students from around the state prepare to meet both challenges. The "Careers in Engineering" session will be offered June 24-28, and the "Major Ecological Issues" session will be held July 8-12.

"I decided about two years ago that I wanted to be an engineer," says Cynthia Pitts, a Dayton resident who will be a junior this fall at Meadowdale High School, "and I've been thinking about electrical engineering or mechanical engineering." Pitts and other students interested in electrical engineering can help to build an infrared communication system and study the applications of computers during the hands-on sessions offered during the academy.

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In another course, students interested in mechanical engineering can perform five different experiments, demonstrating how engineering principles relate to everyday tasks.

As the only student from Meadowdale accepted for the program, Pitts is excited about spending a week on campus and meeting the other students. "This is a really good opportunity for me and I'm going to make the most of it I can," she said.

High school junior Karin Baumann is into recycling. She's concerned about the environmental problems that are facing the planet, and she hopes to explore ideas that may lead to future solutions.

Baumann, a Fairfield resident who attends Badin High School in Hamilton, will attend the July session of the Gifted Academy. The session will focus on major ecological issues such as water contamination, landfills and air pollution.

"I'm looking forward to working with other students to try and devise our own solutions, to try and come up with new ideas for these problems," said Baumann.

The Gifted Academy is designed to offer students a chance to explore topics not usually available in high schools. More than 100 high school students will attend the Gifted Academy at UD this summer.

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For media interviews, call **Tom Matczynski**, director of the Gifted Academy, at (513) 229-3734, **Cynthia Pitts** at (513) 275-2559 and **Karin Baumann** at (513) 829-9785.